

COPY NO 43

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By Authority of
CG VI Corps
Initials Q
30 Jan 45

G-3 Report

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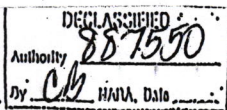
From: 290001A Jan 45
To : 292400A Jan 45
Hq VI Corps
SAVERNE (Q727157), FRANCE
300800A Jan 45

No 30

Map: FRANCE 1/100,000

1. OUR FRONT LINE: Overlay.
2. LOCATION OF TROOPS: Overlay.
3. INFORMATION OF ADJACENT UNITS AND SUPPORTING TROOPS:
 - a. XV Corps: Sector continued quiet. The 398th Inf. was in the process of relieving the 137th Inf in the 35th Inf Div sector at the end of the period.
 - b. II Fr Corps: An enemy counterattack on GRUSSENHEIM (V8149) was halted by inf and arty fire. Elements of 2 DB occupied the line of the CANAL DE COLMAR E to (V845457).
 - c. XII TAC:
 - (1) General support: A total of 37 missions of 391 sorties were flown in support of First Fr Army and Seventh Army. Most of the effort was directed to the COLMAR pocket operation. Rail communications targets and road movements were attacked with excellent results.
 - (2) Close support: See Incls 2.
4. WEATHER AND VISIBILITY: Cloudy and cold in morning; clearing in afternoon. Visibility fair.
5. OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD:
 - a. Inf:
 - (1) 45th Inf Div: The Div continued to send out aggressive patrols and to improve present defensive positions during the period. The 274th Inf moved to WALDHAMBACH (Q6236), reld of atachment to VI Corps and 45th Inf Div and reverted to the control of XV Corps on closing at destination. 1st Bn 179th Inf (atchd to 36th Engr C Regt) remained in position on Div R flank blocking to the SE. 179th Inf (-1st Bn) moved to the vic of KOHLHUTTE (Q7438) and completed the relief of the 320th Inf by 2400A with the 2d Bn on the R and the 3d Bn on the L. 45th Inf Div assumed command of their new sector (overlay) at 292400A. Late in the period the 180th Inf received a local attack in vic SLEGMUHL (Q7937) that drove in the outpost. A counterattack was quickly launched and the positions were restored.
 - (2) 103d Inf Div: The Div sector was extremely quiet, with only patrol contact with the enemy. The 1st Bn 409th Inf reld 2d Bn 409th Inf on position, the 2d Bn then moved to an assembly area in the vic of BUESWILLER (Q8724) on completion of the relief.
 - (3) 101st A/B Div: Elements of the 501st Prcht Inf and 327th Glider Inf continued to patrol the sector with only light contact. The 2d Bn 502d Prcht Inf closed in on assembly in the ALTENDORF (Q8921) - ALTECK-ENDORF (Q9021) area and the 3d Bn closed in the vic of MINVERSHEIM (Q9120). Other units no change.

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- (4) 79th Inf Div: Activity on the Div front was limited to local reliefs and patrol contacts. The 1st Bn 113th Inf reld the 2d Bn in position at 2115A, the 2d Bn moved to an assembly area at (R027231) upon completion of the relief.
 - (5) 36th Inf Div: Local reliefs and regrouping were carried out and patrols pushed well to the front. The 141st Inf (-2d Bn) closed in the vic of WINGERSHEI (Q9213) at 1000A. The 36th Rcn Tr reld Tr C 117th Rcn Sq in position on the R flank. Tr C moved to join parent unit at (Q927103) upon completion of the relief. The 117th Cav Rcn Sq completed the relief of the 3d and Prov Bns 143d Inf in position at 2115A after which they moved to the vic of BISCHWILLER (R0918) and KURTZENHAUSEN (R0515). The 143d Inf was placed on two hour alert on Corps order upon the completion of its relief.
 - b. FA: Poor weather conditions limited observed missions. Several adjustments were made by FOs on close-in targets of opportunity. Several unobserved counterbattery and harassing missions were fired during the period.
 - c. AAA: 35th AAA Brig reports no engagements with enemy aircraft during the period.
 - d. Armd:
 - (1) 14th Armd Div: One plat of Co D 47th Tk Bn was atchd to the 79th Inf Div and closed in the vic of HAGUENAU at 1650A. Otherwise no change.
 - h. Engr: The 256th Engr C Bn began movement to the XXI Corps zone, on arrival unit is reld of attachment to VI Corps and atchd to XXI Corps.
 - j. Misc: VI Corps OI No 33 was issued at 301730A Jan 45.
6. **COMBAT EFFICIENCY:**
- 45th Inf Div - Satisfactory, low Inf strength and combat fatigue.
 - 103d Inf Div - Excellent.
 - 101st A/B Div - Satisfactory, low Inf strength.
 - 79th Inf Div - Satisfactory, low Inf strength and combat fatigue.
 - 36th Inf Div - Very satisfactory, lack of trained NCOs and junior officers.
 - 14th Armd Div - Very satisfactory, low tank strength.
7. **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS:** The Corps front was generally quiet with active patrolling by all units. All defensive positions were maintained with only local reliefs being effected during the period.

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APO 46

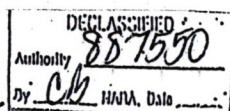
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By Authority of
CG VI Corps
Initials *WCA*
Date: 30 Jan 45INCLS #2
TO G-3 REPORT #30AIR SUPPORT HANDLED BY FWD CONTROL (HALFBAKE), VI CORPS 282400A - 292400A

1. General: 4 missions of 38 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps. 24.75 tons of bombs were dropped.
2. Details:
 - a. Mission #1.
 - (1) Request: 12 a/c to bomb and strafe a priority target. TOT 1100A.
 - (2) Action: "Hillman" leader checked into area at 1100A on AO #80 with 8 a/c. "Halfbake" directed squadron to target at R1717, (MT and H/D vehicles.)
 - (3) Results: 4 x 500-lb demolition and 2 x 500-lb incendiary bombs dropped on H/D vehicles at R1717; no hits. Dropped 2 x 500-lb demo and 1 x 500-lb incendiary bombs in woods at R1717; no results observed. 2 x 500-lb demo and 1 x 500-lb incendiary bombs dropped on 2 barges at R1716; no results observed. Strafed and damaged 1 MT and trailer moving towards Rhine. Dropped 6 x 500-lb demo and 3 x 500-lb incendiary bombs on 7 MT S of Fort Lewis (R230216); no results observed. 2 x 500-lb demo and 1 x 500-lb incendiary bombs dropped on three buildings at R093280; 1 building destroyed and 2 buildings damaged, also created 1 road block.
 - b. Mission #2.
 - (1) Request: 12 a/c to bomb and strafe a priority target. TOT 1350A.
 - (2) Action: "Exhaust" leader checked into area at 1350A on AO #20 with 10 a/c. "Halfbake" directed squadron to contact Tac/R.
 - (3) Results: 9 x 500-lb bombs dropped on radar station near EPPINZEN, 3 x 500-lb bombs dropped on RR bridge near EPPINZEN; bombs hit bridge no claims. 9 x 500-lb bombs dropped on town at R9742; 5 buildings destroyed. Dropped 7 x 500-lb bombs on 15 box cars and small M/Y at R9742; no results observed. 2 x 500-lb bombs dropped on radar station at SACHSENHEIM airfield; bombs missed but damaged station by strafing, destroyed 1 MT at airdrome. Strafed and damaged 10 light tanks loaded on flat cars at R9742, damaged 2 small planes at R9742, destroyed 2 MT, 1 half-track and 2 large vans and staff car near EPPINZEN.
 - c. Mission #3.
 - (1) Request: 12 a/c to bomb and strafe 16 tanks at R115121 - R115132 on both sides of road. TOT 1600A.
 - (2) Action: "Gatepost" leader checked into area at 1530A on AO #26 with 13 a/c. "Halfbake" directed squadron to contact "Horsefly" who directed them to target.
 - (3) Results: 37 x 500-lb bombs dropped on 30 plus tanks; 5 tanks destroyed and 2 tanks damaged. Strafed 20 tanks with no claims. "Horsefly" saw one tank destroyed and 1 knocked out.
 - d. Mission #4.
 - (1) Request: 12 a/c to bomb and strafe tanks at R125145. TOT 1635A.
 - (2) Action: "Hepburn" leader checked into area at 1635A on AO #6 with 7 a/c. "Halfbake" directed squadron to contact "Horsefly" who would direct flight to target.
 - (3) Results: 8 x 500-lb bombs on town at R125145; 10 buildings destroyed and 1 road block created. Strafed 10 tanks in fields vicinity R118130; destroyed and damaged 6.

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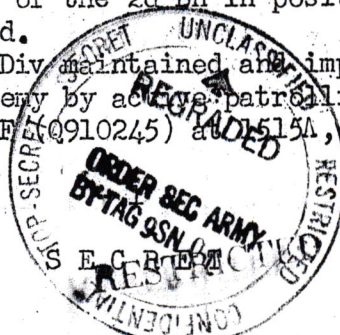
31 Jan 45

From: 300001A Jan 45
To : 302400A Jan 45
Hq VI Corps
SAVERNE (Q727157), FRANCE
310800A Jan 45

No 31

Map: FRANCE 1/100,000

1. OUR FRONT LINE: No change.
2. LOCATION OF TROOPS: 2d Bn 410th Inf (Q848333), 1st Bn 410th Inf (Q8130), 2d Bn 506th Precht Inf (Q9124), 1st Bn 313th Inf (R014240), 2d Bn 313th Inf (R027231), 141st Inf (-2d Bn) (Q9213), Trs A and B 117th Cav Rcn Sq along line (R077146) - (R061122) - (R050124), 3d and Prov Bns 143d Inf (R0617), 36th Rcn Tr (R044118), others no change.
3. INFORMATION OF ADJACENT UNITS AND SUPPORTING TROOPS:
 - a. XV Corps: Relief of the 35th Inf Div was completed by elements of the 100th and 45th Inf Divs and the Div (-134th RCT) began movement from the Corps zone at 0700A.
 - b. II Fr Corps: 1 DMI attacked and captured the woods of ONENHEIM from (V840530) to (V804550) and began an attack on the HARDT woods (V8448).
 - c. XII TAC:
 - (1) General support: Bad weather limited F/Bs to 5 missions of 36 sorties. The effort was divided between the 1st Fr Army and the Seventh Army. In addition to close support attacks in the COLMAR pocket, rail and road movements well to the rear were attacked with good effect.
 - (2) Close support: None due to weather.
4. WEATHER AND VISIBILITY: Overcast and cold with snow flurries during the afternoon; visibility poor.
5. OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD:
 - a. Inf:
 - (1) 45th Inf Div: The Div continued aggressive patrolling and improved its defensive positions. Scattered enemy arty and mortar fire was received by the forward elements.
 - (2) 103d Inf Div: The Div sector was generally quiet during the period with patrols active to the front. A patrol of the 2d Bn 410th Inf reduced an enemy outpost garrison at NIEFFERN (Q8730). 1st Bn 410th Inf began the relief of the 2d Bn in position, relief not completed at the end of the period.
 - (3) 101st A/B Div: The Div maintained and improved its defensive positions and contacted the enemy by active patrolling. 2d Bn 506th Precht Inf closed in GRASSENDORF (Q910245) at 0151A, otherwise no change.



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1 Feb 45

G-3 Report

From: 310001A Jan 45
To : 312400A Jan 45
Hq VI Corps
SAVERNE, (Q727157), FRANCE
010800A Feb 45

No 32

Map: France 1/100,000

1. OUR FRONT LINE: Overlay.
2. LOCATION OF TROOPS: Overlay.
3. INFORMATION OF ADJACENT UNITS AND SUPPORTING TROOPS:
 - a. XV Corps: Local reliefs were effected, sector generally quiet.
 - b. II Fr Corps: 3 DIA: Early in the period elements of 3 DIA occupied BETTENHOFFEN (R1009) and GAMBSHEIM (R1010). Later, patrols reached the RR crossing at (R115118) and worked E from GAMBSHEIM towards the bridge site at (R133098). 2 DB and 1 DMI: Occupied HERBSHEIM (V9272), OHNENHEIM (V8353) and ELSSENHEIM (V8251). Elements also reached the line of the CANAL W of OBENHEIM (V9673) and the outskirts of MUTTERHOLTZ (V8563).
 - c. XII TAC: Weather prevented any air activity. A summary of air operations for the period 18 Jan to 31 Jan is atchd as Incls # 2.
4. WEATHER AND VISIBILITY: Slight thaw during the day. Overcast with light rain showers; visibility poor.
5. OUR OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD:
 - a. Inf:
 - (1) 45th Inf Div: The Div continued to improve defensive positions and to maintain contact with enemy by patrols. The 180th Inf extended its positions to the L and reld elements of the 179th Inf.
 - (2) 103d Inf Div: The 1st Bn 410th Inf completed the relief of the 2d Bn, the 2d Bn moving to an assembly area in the vic of INGWILLER (Q8130) on completion of the relief. The 3d Bn 410th Inf extended its positions to the L and reld the 2d Bn 411th Inf. On being reld the 2d Bn 411th Inf moved and assembled in SCHILLERSDORF (Q8430) and ZUTZENDORF (Q8628). On being reld by elements of the 101st A/B Div late in the period, the 3d Bn 409th Inf moved to OBERMODERN (Q8527). The Div sector was quiet throughout the period.
 - (3) 101st A/B Div: The 506th Pzcht Inf reld the 3d Bn 409th Inf with the 1st Bn on the L, the 3d Bn on the R and the 2d Bn in res in the vic of (Q9125) and the Div assumed command of the sector (Overlay) at 2145A. The Div continued to improve its defensive positions and maintained active patrols to the front.
 - (4) 79th Inf Div: Activity was limited to patrolling to maintain contact with enemy. Continued to improve defensive positions during the period.
 - (5) 36th Inf Div: The 3d Bn 142d Inf, 2d Bn 141st Inf, 117th Cav Rcn Sq and the 36th Cav Rcn Tr continued to hold the BISCHWILLER (R0818) - WEYER-SHEIM (R0413) line. The 2d Bn 142d Inf moved forward from GRIES (R0517)

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attacked across the MODER R at 2100A with the obj of seizing OBERHOFFEN (R0920) and securing a bridgehead across the river at that point. The 1st Bn 141st Inf moved from WINGERSHEIM (Q9213) to GRIES late in the period. Foot patrols of the 117th Cav Rcn Sq reached the W edge of the STAINWALD in the vic of (R104120) while Tr C moved to GAMBSHEIM (R1010) and sent a patrol to (R109113). CCB 14th Armd Div was atchd to the 36th Inf Div effective 1400A. The 143d Inf was released from its 2 hour alert status at 1400A.

- b. FA: Ground and Air OPs adjusted the Corps Arty on targets of opportunity including enemy tks and personnel. A normal harassing program was fired during the night along the entire Corps front.
 - c. AAA: 35th AAA Brig reports no engagements with enemy aircraft during the period.
 - d. Armd: 14th Armd Div: CCB was atchd to the 36th Inf Div effective 311400A. Otherwise no change.
 - j. Misc: VI Corps OIs Nos 34 and 35 issued at 311100A and 311400A respectively.
6. **COMBAT EFFICIENCY:**
- 45th Inf Div - Satisfactory, low Inf strength and combat fatigue.
 - 103d Inf Div - Excellent.
 - 101st A/B Div - Satisfactory, low Inf strength.
 - 79th Inf Div - Satisfactory, low Inf strength and combat fatigue.
 - 36th Inf Div - Very satisfactory, lack of trained NCOs and junior officers.
 - 14th Armd Div - Excellent.
7. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS: The operation to secure the line OBERHOFFEN - DRUSENHEIM was initiated by the 36th Inf Div late in the period when the 2d Bn 142d Inf attacked OBERHOFFEN in order to secure a bridgehead across the MODER R in that area. Patrols N of GAMBSHEIM reached the S and W edge of the STAINWALD. The 101st A/B Div reld elements of the 103d Inf Div and extended its sector to the L to include PFAFFENHOFFEN.

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2 Incls: 1 - Overlay
 2 - Close Air Support

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APO 46

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By Authority of
CG VI Corps
Initials
Date: 15 Feb 45

INCLS #2 TO
G-3 REPORT #32

SUMMARY AIR ACTIVITY FOR PERIOD 18 JAN - 31 JAN

1. Enemy Air - (Source: 35th AAA Brig and 64th Ftr Wing):

a. There was a marked falling off of enemy air activity over the Corps front during this period due mostly to very poor flying conditions. 40 enemy planes were sighted by AA gunners with 23 of these appearing on the 23d and no engagements being reported for 10 days of the 14 day period. 5 Me 109s attacked a flight of our F/Bs and were destroyed, for the only contact made by American F/Bs during the same period.

b. The following is a daily AA report for the period 18 Jan - 31 Jan:

Date	Number of A/C	Mission of A/C	Our AA Claims
18 Jan	9	Recce and strafing	No claims
19 Jan	4	Reconnaissance	No claims
23 Jan	23	Bombing and strafing	1 Probable
29 Jan	4	Recce and strafing	No claims

No enemy action reported for 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30 and 31 Jan.

2. Friendly Air - (Source: Seventh Army ASC and 64th Ftr Wing):

a. 121 missions of 1359 sorties by F/Bs of XII TAC were flown during this period. Flying in very hazardous weather conditons and forced to find targets thru openings in the clouds, pilots were still able to carry out effective support for the ground forces. Troop and tank concentrations were successfully attacked by F/Bs and the main enemy supply routes were kept under constant surveillance.

(1) Close Support: 32 missions of 260 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps on targets handled by the Corps Fwd Controller. The following is a brief summary of close support action for the period:

16 Jan - 16 missions, 190 sorties. Targets attacked: Troop and tank concentrations, MT, barges and pontoon bridge sites. Majority of effort was directed against the enemy bridgehead area with 4 attacks on the town of HERRLISHEIM and 1 on the town of OFFENDORF, 2 attacks on Rhine River pontoon bridge sites and barges and 2 attacks on reported tank and troop concentrations. In addition the town of NEIDERRODERN was attacked. Results for the most part were unobserved due to poor visibility.

22 Jan - 5 missions of approx 60 sorties. Effort was directed against enemy bridgehead area. A reported tank concentration in wooded area N of GAMBSHEIM was thoroughly bombed and strafed.

23 Jan - 3 missions, 32 sorties attacked tank concentrations and enemy road movement in the BITCHE and GAMBSHEIM areas.

26 Jan - 4 missions, 38 sorties. Towns of UHRNWILLER, MERTZWILLER and ZINSWILLER were successfully attacked.

29 Jan - 4 missions, 40 sorties. Attacked towns of BISCHWILLER, OFFENDORF and HERRLISHEIM, also a tank concentration just J of OFFENDORF.

(2) General Support: The following is a brief summary of results as observed by pilots:

	Destroyed	Damaged
Locomotives	2	37
RR cars	79	257
MT	108	113
H/D vehicles	38	144
Buildings	332	111
Tanks	21	19
Bridges	4	6
Barges	6	3
H/D aircraft	3	10
Armored vehicles	2	2
Marshalling yards		6
Guns	1	6

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